Best of the Best 2016

The Situation
Farmers have to make many decisions during the growing season. Having up to date relevant and pertinent research information available is essential to be profitable in agricultural production.

Extension Response
Annually two major update meetings in Grand Forks and Moorhead, with about 315 and 205 persons attending, respectively, provide management information regarding soybean and wheat production in North Dakota and NW Minnesota. One block of breakout sessions uses hands on education, using live plants.

Impacts
In 2016, when asked to place a dollar value on the information received when the knowledge obtained would be applied in the business, producer estimated $4.56 per acre. All growers collectively were farming a total of 553 thousand acres. If half of the acres are either soybean or wheat the total estimated perceived value of this meeting series would be $1.25 M

Feedback
- One producers stated: Well worth the time, excellent presentations and enjoy the hands-on.
- Another: Presenters were very good, very focused, well prepared, and speaking skills were very professional.
- What have you learned: I will test for Soybean Cyst Nematodes, adjust wheat seed population and I will not use a fungicide on wheat unless scouting reveals a problem.

Public Value Statement
Efficient utilization of resources will benefit growers, consumers, and the environment.

Primary Contact
Hans Kandel
Broadleaf Extension Agronomist
NDSU Plant Sciences Department
701-231-8135
hans.kandel@ndsu.edu

What information sources are used to select a variety in percent of responding growers

Collaborators
ND and MN state extension specialist working with wheat and soybean.

Non-Extension Collaborators
MN and ND Wheat and Soybean growers organizations.